

# Dorchester, NH



## Community Contact

**Dorchester Board of Selectmen**  
**Holly Buker, Administrative Assistant**  
**1021 NH Route 118**  
**Dorchester, NH 03266**

Telephone  
 Fax  
 E-mail  
 Web Site

**(603) 786-5095**  
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**selectmen@townofdorchester.net**  
**www.townofdorchester.net**

## Municipal Office Hours

**Administrative Assistant: Monday, 4 pm - 7 pm, Tuesday through Friday, 9 am - 2 pm; Town Clerk, Tax Collector: Monday, 9 am - 11 am, Wednesday, 3 pm - 6 pm, last Saturday, 9 am - 11 am**

County  
 Labor Market Area  
 Tourism Region  
 Planning Commission  
 Regional Development

**Grafton**  
**Lebanon, NH-VT Micropolitan NECTA, NH part**  
**Dartmouth-Lake Sunapee**  
**Upper Valley Lake Sunapee**  
**Grafton County Economic Development Council**

## Election Districts

US Congress  
 Executive Council  
 State Senate  
 State Representative

**District 2**  
**District 1**  
**District 2**  
**Grafton County Districts 11, 16**

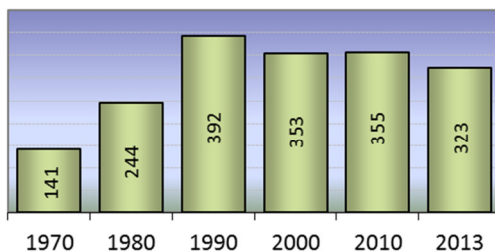
## Incorporated: 1761

**Origin:** First chartered in 1761, Dorchester was probably given its name in honor of ancestors of Governor Benning Wentworth, who held the titles Marquis of Dorchester and Earl of Kingston. Due to the inability of grantees to meet prescribed terms of settlement, the territory was granted twice more, once in 1766 and again in 1772, retaining the name Dorchester throughout. The town's first moderator, Captain John Thompson, was a descendant of David Thompson, who was one of the first settlers in the colony, at Rye's Odiorne Point in 1623.

**Villages and Place Names:** Bucks Corner, Cheever, North Dorchester

**Population, Year of the First Census Taken:** 175 residents in 1790

**Population Trends:** Population change for Dorchester totaled 232 over 53 years, from 91 in 1960 to 323 in 2013. The largest decennial percent change was 73 percent



between 1970 and 1980, a numeric increase of 103. The 2013 Census estimate for Dorchester was 323 residents, which ranked 227th among New Hampshire's incorporated cities and towns.

**Population Density and Land Area, 2013 (US Census Bureau):** 7.2 persons per square mile of land area. Dorchester contains 44.6 square miles of land area and 0.6 square miles of inland water area.



Grafton County

MUNICIPAL SERVICES			
Type of Government		Selectmen	
Budget: Municipal Appropriations, 2014		\$437,602	
Budget: School Appropriations, 2013-2014		\$599,876	
Zoning Ordinance		1989	
Master Plan		1981	
Capital Improvement Plan		No	
Industrial Plans Reviewed By		Planning Board	
Boards and Commissions			
Elected:	Selectmen; Planning; Cemetery		
Appointed:	Zoning; Conservation; Historic District		
Public Library	No Library		
EMERGENCY SERVICES			
Police Department		No	
Fire Department		Canaan, Rumney, Lyme - Volunteer	
Emergency Medical Service		Canaan, Warren, Wentworth - Volunteer	
Nearest Hospital(s)	Distance	Staffed Beds	
Speare Memorial, Plymouth	18 miles	25	
Alice Peck Day Memorial, Lebanon	23 miles	25	
UTILITIES			
Electric Supplier		NH Electric Coop	
Natural Gas Supplier		None	
Water Supplier		Private wells	
Sanitation		Private septic	
Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plant		No	
Solid Waste Disposal			
Curbside Trash Pickup		None	
Pay-As-You-Throw Program		No	
Recycling Program		Mandatory	
Telephone Company		Fairpoint	
Cellular Telephone Access		Limited	
Cable Television Access		Limited	
Public Access Television Station		No	
High Speed Internet Service:	Business	Yes	
	Residential	Yes	
PROPERTY TAXES		(NH Dept. of Revenue Administration)	
2013 Total Tax Rate (per \$1000 of value)		\$18.61	
2013 Equalization Ratio		111.0	
2013 Full Value Tax Rate (per \$1000 of value)		\$20.51	
2013 Percent of Local Assessed Valuation by Property Type			
Residential Land and Buildings		94.7%	
Commercial Land and Buildings		1.8%	
Public Utilities, Current Use, and Other		3.5%	
HOUSING		(ACS 2009-2013)	
Total Housing Units		205	
Single-Family Units, Detached or Attached		176	
Units in Multiple-Family Structures:			
Two to Four Units in Structure		1	
Five or More Units in Structure		0	
Mobile Homes and Other Housing Units		28	

DEMOGRAPHICS		(US Census Bureau)	
Total Population		Community	County
2013	323		89,268
2010	355		89,118
2000	353		81,826
1990	392		74,998
1980	244		65,806
1970	141		54,914
Demographics, American Community Survey (ACS) 2009-2013			
Population by Gender			
Male	181	Female	142
Population by Age Group			
Under age 5			2
Age 5 to 19			30
Age 20 to 34			53
Age 35 to 54			123
Age 55 to 64			59
Age 65 and over			56
Median Age			48.7 years
Educational Attainment, population 25 years and over			
High school graduate or higher			86.0%
Bachelor's degree or higher			17.0%
INCOME, INFLATION ADJUSTED \$		(ACS 2009-2013)	
Per capita income			\$48,893
Median family income			\$82,500
Median household income			\$63,750
Median Earnings, full-time, year-round workers			
Male			\$39,167
Female			\$36,250
Individuals below the poverty level			8.0%
LABOR FORCE		(NHES – ELMI)	
Annual Average	2003		2013
Civilian labor force	172		165
Employed	165		152
Unemployed	7		13
Unemployment rate	4.1%		7.9%
EMPLOYMENT & WAGES		(NHES – ELMI)	
Annual Average Covered Employment	2003		2013
Goods Producing Industries			
Average Employment	n		n
Average Weekly Wage	n		n
Service Providing Industries			
Average Employment	0		n
Average Weekly Wage	\$0		n
Total Private Industry			
Average Employment	n		n
Average Weekly Wage	n		n
Government (Federal, State, and Local)			
Average Employment	9		8
Average Weekly Wage	\$ 84		\$ 238
Total, Private Industry plus Government			
Average Employment	n		n
Average Weekly Wage	n		n
If “n” appears, data do not meet disclosure standards.			

**EDUCATION AND CHILD CARE**

Schools students attend: **Grades K-12 are part of Mascoma Valley Regional (Canaan, Dorchester, Enfield, Grafton, Orange)** District: **SAU 62**

Career Technology Center(s): **Hartford Area Career and Technical Center, White River Junction VT** Region: **7**

Educational Facilities (includes Charter Schools)      Elementary      Middle/Junior High      High School      Private/Parochial

Number of Schools

Grade Levels

Total Enrollment

Nearest Community College: **Lakes Region; River Valley**

Nearest Colleges or Universities: **Plymouth State University; Lebanon; Dartmouth**

2014 NH Licensed Child Care Facilities (DHHS-Bureau of Child Care Licensing)      Total Facilities: **0**      Total Capacity: **0**

**LARGEST BUSINESSES**

	PRODUCT/SERVICE	EMPLOYEES	ESTABLISHED
Town of Dorchester	Municipal services	3	

**TRANSPORTATION** (*distances estimated from city/town hall*)

Road Access      US Routes

State Routes      **118**

Nearest Interstate, Exit      **I-93, Exit 26**

Distance      **19 miles**

Railroad      **No**

Public Transportation      **No**

Nearest Public Use Airport, General Aviation

**Newfound Valley, Bristol**      Runway      **1,900 ft. asphalt**

Lighted?      **No**      Navigation Aids?      **No**

Nearest Airport with Scheduled Service

**Lebanon Municipal**      Distance      **27 miles**

Number of Passenger Airlines Serving Airport      **1**

Driving distance to select cities:

Manchester, NH      **79 miles**

Portland, Maine      **119 miles**

Boston, Mass.      **129 miles**

New York City, NY      **291 miles**

Montreal, Quebec      **210 miles**

**COMMUTING TO WORK**

(ACS 2009-2013)

Workers 16 years and over

Drove alone, car/truck/van      **64.4%**

Carpooled, car/truck/van      **11.7%**

Public transportation      **0.0%**

Walked      **12.4%**

Other means      **1.5%**

Worked at home      **10.0%**

Mean Travel Time to Work      **19.4 minutes**

**Percent of Working Residents: ACS 2009-2013**

Working in community of residence      **59.1**

Commuting to another NH community      **30.7**

Commuting out-of-state      **10.2**

**RECREATION, ATTRACTIONS, AND EVENTS**

Municipal Parks

YMCA/YWCA

Boys Club/Girls Club

Golf Courses

Swimming: Indoor Facility

Swimming: Outdoor Facility

Tennis Courts: Indoor Facility

Tennis Courts: Outdoor Facility

Ice Skating Rink: Indoor Facility

Bowling Facilities

**X** Museums

Cinemas

Performing Arts Facilities

Tourist Attractions

Youth Organizations (i.e., Scouts, 4-H)

Youth Sports: Baseball

Youth Sports: Soccer

Youth Sports: Football

Youth Sports: Basketball

Youth Sports: Hockey

Campgrounds

**X** Fishing/Hunting

Boating/Marinas

**X** Snowmobile Trails

**X** Bicycle Trails

**X** Cross Country Skiing

Beach or Waterfront Recreation Area

Overnight or Day Camps

Nearest Ski Area(s): **Ragged Mountain**

Other: **Dorchester "Going Places" Mountain Bike-a-Thon**